



Board Highlights

Citrus Community College District Board of Trustees

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Vice President
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Dr. Gary L. Woods
Clerk/Secretary
Azusa/Covina/Glendora/Irwindale Representative

Dr. Patricia Rasmussen
Member
Glendora/Azusa/ San Dimas Representative

Mrs. Joanne Montgomery
Member
Monrovia/Bradbury/Duarte Representative

Ms. Linda Bermudez
Student Representative

Dr. Michael J. Viera
Superintendent/President

Mission Statement

Citrus College delivers high quality instruction that empowers students to compete globally and to contribute to the economic growth of today's society.

We are dedicated to fostering a diverse educational community and cultural learning environment that supports student success in pursuit of academic excellence, economic opportunity, and personal achievement.

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Highlights of March 18, 2008 Board of Trustees Meeting

REPORTS

Superintendent/President

Michael J. Viera, Ph.D., superintendent/president, asked the board to form a subcommittee to recommend replacements for several bond oversight committee members whose terms will soon expire. There are five categories of representation designated in law. Within those categories, the board's policy has been to identify candidates who live in different communities served by Citrus College. Mrs. Susan M. Keith, board vice president, and Dr. Gary L. Woods, board clerk/secretary, volunteered to serve on the subcommittee.

Dr. Viera met with the Foundation's Financial Committee regarding the Foundation's assets, which are managed by Bear, Stearns, & Company. In spite of financial difficulties recently experienced by the company, the Foundation did not own any stock in Bear Stearns, and it appears that none of the Foundation accounts are at risk.

Student Services

Ms. Lucinda Over, dean of counseling programs and services, reported that the high school counselor breakfast had 145 attendees, with 21 high schools represented. She thanked Dr. Patricia Rasmussen, board member, for attending.

Ms. Martha McDonald, dean of students, and Ms. Ivon McCraven, coordinator of school relations, worked with many faculty and staff to host two successful open house events for approximately 1,300 high school students on March 12 and 13.

The CalWORKs program has hosted several orientations for incoming students. This year, Mr. Robert Melendez, director of EOPS, CARE, and CalWORKs, added work study orientations. In addition, the Harriett Buhai Center for Family Law was on campus to provide legal advice to CalWORKs students.

Ms. Robin McBurney and Ms. Marilyn Eng, counselors, are working with Ms. Sylvia Smythe, director of basic skills, to offer study skills workshops in several basic skills classes this semester.

Ms. Over said the Career/Transfer Center is preparing for a college fair on March 26. Over 40 colleges and universities are scheduled to attend. Following the fair, a Transfer Task Force meeting will take place and include Citrus College staff and representatives from the colleges and universities. Ms. Justina Rivadeneyra, coordinator of the Career/Transfer Center, will discuss the results of a report from the Jack Kent Cooke Foundation on best practices in transfer.

Educational advisors, Ms. Emily Burch and Ms. Paige Miyabe, are coordinating the Art Portfolio Panel event for Fine Arts students on April 2, where students will meet with excellent art schools including: Art Center, UCLA, CSU Fullerton, Otis, and Cal Arts. Mr. John Quinn, vice president of character art at the Disney Corporation, will review portfolios and give advice to students who want to work in the field.

Human Resources

Dr. Sandra Lindoerfer, director of human resources, congratulated all of the groups that contributed to successfully negotiating the faculty load issue. It was a long, difficult task, and she is pleased that the matter has been resolved.

Finance and Administrative Services

Mrs. Carol R. Horton, vice president of finance and administrative services, was pleased to submit action items for the west campus access drive and the softball field complex, to be funded by Measure G.

Mrs. Horton reported that the Center for Innovation is proceeding very well. She thanked Mr. Mike Harrington, director of facilities and construction; Mr. Jim Scinocca, project manager; Ms. Bernice Deck, buyer for R & D Business Interiors; and the Woodcliff Corporation for working together to move furniture into the building. The first phase of the move-in is scheduled for April 12.

Regarding the state budget, Mrs. Horton said community colleges have just been notified of a statewide cut of \$84.4 million, with only three months left in the fiscal year. The estimated reduction to our general fund is \$854,417. Mrs. Horton is hopeful she will be able to retain a 5% ending balance, but she is very concerned about next year. She said they are discussing the situation with campus constituent groups, with the goal of keeping cuts as far away from the classroom as possible. Unlike K-12, community colleges do not receive any backfill from the state. She suggested we lobby for some type of backfill legislation to ensure student access and success is maintained at community colleges.

COMMENTS

Academic Senate

Ms. Dana Hester, academic senate president, said at the Academic Senate meeting on March 12, Ms. Irene Malmgren, vice president of instruction, discussed the types of resources that faculty might utilize for basic skills training, and Dr. Bruce Solheim, history instructor, provided an update on the Veterans Program.

Ms. Hester said Title 5 changes and associated new and revised board policies and regulations, which have been approved by Student Services and/or have been discussed at Educational Programs, will be on their March 26 agenda.

Classified School Employees Association

On behalf of classified staff, Ms. Cathy Napoli, CSEA president, congratulated the men's basketball team for winning the state championship. She also thanked the board for the summer schedule.

Ms. Napoli announced that classified staff are participating in accreditation, with many serving on accreditation committees.

Members of the Board of Trustees

Ms. Linda Bermudez, student trustee, reported on several successful ASCC activities, including the St. Patrick's Day celebration. The "I Will Ride" campaign website is operational. It offers visitors the opportunity to sign a petition stating they will ride the Gold Line. On March 31 and April 3, students are planning "I Will Ride" events on campus. Ms. Bermudez also said she has been asked to be the keynote speaker for the EOPS and CARE Recognition Ceremony on June 6.

Dr. Rasmussen reported on several events she attended recently, including the Soup Supper at the First Christian Church in Glendora, which is held in conjunction with the Empty Bowls Project and provides support for organizations that fight hunger. She attended a science fair at Sellers Elementary School where Citrus College faculty members conducted science experiments, and she thanked Mr. Eric Rabitoy, dean of science, engineering, and health sciences, and faculty members for donating their time to motivate the elementary school students. On March 15 she attended the Vienna Boys Choir concert held in the Haugh Performing Arts Center. She complimented Mr. Greg Hinrichsen, director of performing arts, for continuing to bring performances to the Haugh that the community wants to see. Dr. Rasmussen also toured the Registered Dental Assisting facility during their annual Children's Dental Screening event, where pre-K children from the CDC were screened by local volunteer dentists. Ms. Claudia Pohl, dental assisting instructor, wrote a successful grant for a dental chair, and Dr. Rasmussen commented on the value of hiring an hourly person to write additional grants for vocational programs. Dr. Rasmussen congratulated Counseling staff members on the successful High School Counselor Breakfast, and gave special thanks to Ms. Alicia Longyear, student athletics counselor, for coordinating the event.

Mrs. Keith attended the Foundation retreat on March 15. She complimented the facilitator and Ms. Jennetta Harris, Foundation board president, for organizing a very comprehensive retreat. Many initiatives were discussed, and everyone in attendance signed up to be part of a Foundation committee or event. The Foundation asked that she convey their hope that the new superintendent/president will be active in fundraising. The Foundation is currently planning a "friend raiser," where renowned artist and Citrus College adjunct instructor, Mr. Chris Van Winkle, will provide a water color demonstration and donate the painting for auction. Mrs. Keith commented on the success of the basketball blog during the championships. She said she either went to the games or followed the blog and sent emails about our team's progress to community members whom she thought would be interested in our team's progress. She got back many positive replies. She hoped that *Citrus in the Media*, the new publication from External Relations, eventually would be available as an attachment that could be forwarded to community constituencies to keep them informed of Citrus College achievements.

Dr. Ortell commended the Foundation/External Relations for the *Report to Our Communities* publication, saying it was quite impressive.

COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE AUDIENCE

Dr. Viera announced that the men's basketball team claimed the first state championship in Citrus College history on March 16. He introduced Ms. Jody Wise, dean of physical education and athletics, who thanked everyone for their support. She then introduced Mr. Rick Croy, men's basketball coach, whom she described as "the best basketball coach in the nation." Mr. Croy expressed his appreciation for the support of the board, Dr. Viera, administrators, faculty and staff. He then introduced members of the team. Mr. Croy said "success forever" has been the team's motto, and it will continue to be, as they move on in their education and their lives. He added that at least seven players will receive full scholarships. The entire board congratulated the men's basketball team and coaching staff for a very successful season.

Mr. James Lancaster, CCFA president, said the faculty ratified the Memorandum of Understanding regarding load. He thanked the district for working to resolve this long-standing issue. He also thanked Mr. Sam Lee, dean of language arts, for the many hours he spent creating spread sheets. Dr. Ortell thanked Mr. Lancaster for his leadership and the administrative staff for their work.

INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION

In anticipation of the board retreat on April 5, Ms. Irene Malmgren, vice president of Instruction and Ms. Hester presented updates on their work to support the board goals, which were adopted by the board at their December 4 organizational meeting. Student Services, TeCS, and Foundation/External Relations will make a similar presentation at the April 1 board meeting.

BOARD ACTION

The board approved eight action items, including approval of bids for the west campus access drive and softball field complex, funded by Measure G, and approval of the Memorandum of Understanding regarding workload.